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2018

Guide to the Jack Coughlin Collection, 1973-1986

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**Jack Coughlin Collection,
1973-1986
(MSS-034)**

*Finding Aid Compiled by
Orson Kingsley, June 2018*

Last Updated: June 13, 2018

Volume: 1.25 linear feet (2 document boxes, 3 framed items)

Acquisition: All items in this manuscript group were donated to Bridgewater State University by Maureen Connelly in 2012 and 2018, with one etching donated by the Paula Vadeboncoeur estate in 2016.

Access: Access to this record group is unrestricted.

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Jack Coughlin Collection

Biographical Sketch

Jack Coughlin is an artist of Irish-American heritage who is well known for his portraits of literary figures and musicians. His prints, drawings and watercolors have been exhibited widely across the United States and Europe. They are in the permanent collections of the Metropolitan Museum and the Museum of Modern Art in New York, the National Collection of Fine Arts in Washington D.C., the Norfolk Museum of Arts and Sciences in Virginia, the Worcester Art Museum in Massachusetts, the University of Colorado, the Philadelphia Free Public Library, Staedelsches Kunstinstitut, Frankfurt, Germany, the New University of Ulster, Coleraine, Northern Ireland and in several other important museum, university and library collections worldwide.

Scope and Content Note

This collection consists mainly of Jack Coughlin portraits and etchings, and letters documenting the provenance of the artwork between Coughlin and Maureen Connelly. A 1982 etching of poet Seamus Heaney by Coughlin can be found in the [Seamus Heaney Collection](#).

Box and Folder List

Box 1

Folder

1. Jack Coughlin to Maureen Connelly about purchasing "Thirteen Irish Writers" portfolio, Jan. 12, 1974
2. Coughlin to Connelly, includes prices of purchased etchings, July 15, 1974
3. Coughlin to Connelly (4 letters), 1975
4. Peter Fallon to Connelly about Coughlin art, 1978
5. Coughlin to Connelly, 1986

6. Photographs (9) of Jack Coughlin, undated
7. News clippings and publications about or representing Jack Coughlin, 1978-1982

Box 2

-“Thirteen Irish Writers on Ireland”, portraits by Jack Coughlin, writing by Robin Skelton. All portraits are artist proofs. Inscribed by Coughlin on title page. Includes portraits of George Bernard Shaw, J.M. Synge, James Joyce, Flann O’Brien, Austin Clarke, Patrick Kavanagh, Frank O’Connor, Samuel Beckett, and John Montague. Missing are Brendan Behan, Thomas Kinsella, Sean O’Casey, and W.B. Yeats (the Yeats portrait has been separated and put in another collection), 1973

Framed Items (Oversized):

-Etching by Coughlin of W. B. Yeats, 13 ¼ x 18 inches, c. 1975

-Etching by Coughlin of James Joyce, 9 ¼ x 16 ½ inches, c. 1975

-Etching by Coughlin of Flannery O’Connor, 8 ¾ x 12 inches, undated